

Services can be provided within your home or in small group community-based classes called Mini Centers. Group classes are coordinated in facilities located in your community. Classes are provided one or two days per week, for several weeks, and you will receive information and instruction in cooking, labeling, housekeeping, handwriting and communication, personal care, self-advocacy, etc. You will also receive information on health, safety and other resources available in the community.

Medical Eye Care

The Medical Eye Care Program delivers preventive and corrective services which include sponsorship of eye exams, glasses, treatment, surgery, eye medications, low-vision evaluations, and eye care education. Eligibility for services is based on economic income. Medical eye care services, delivered by registered nurses, are available in all counties of the state. For more information, please contact your local department of social services or one of DSB's district offices.

How to Reach Us

County Social Workers for the Blind can be contacted through local department of social services Offices located in each county in North Carolina.

ASHEVILLE
(828) 251-6732
Voice/TTY: 1-800-422-1881

CHARLOTTE
(704) 563-4168
Voice/TTY: 1-800-422-1895

FAYETTEVILLE
(910) 486-1582
Voice/TTY: 1-800-422-1897

GREENVILLE
(252) 355-9016
Voice/TTY: 1-800-422-1877

RALEIGH
(919) 733-4234
Voice/TTY: 1-800-422-1871

WILMINGTON
(910) 251-5743
Voice/TTY: 1-800-422-1884

WINSTON SALEM
(336) 896-2227
TTY (336) 896-7047
Voice: 1-800-422-0373

DSB ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
(919) 733-9822
Voice: 1-866-222-1546
In Spanish: 1-800-662-7030



North Carolina Division of Services for the Blind

Since 1935, the North Carolina Division of Services for the Blind (DSB) has provided services to the blind and visually impaired citizens of the state. We are able to offer these services through cooperative efforts from federal, state and county resources.



www.ncdhhs.gov

www.ncdhhs.gov/dsb/



Vocational Rehabilitation Employment Services

If blindness or vision loss prevents you from getting or keeping a job, you may be eligible for services through a vocational rehabilitation (VR) counselor. Services are individualized and must be related to the achievement of your work goal. If you are unsure what kind of work you want to do or can do, a VR counselor can help you explore career options and identify your job goal. Some of the services you may receive include: career counseling, vocational evaluation, medical services, training, adaptive technology and job placement. Rehabilitation engineering services provide employers and others with assistance on modifications needed for successful employment. This can include job or training site modifications, such as lighting changes, adaptations of telephones and other equipment.

If you need one-to-one instruction to learn a new job, a job coach might be helpful through supported employment or work adjustment. The coach will work with you at the job while you learn, then check on you occasionally to ensure that you are doing well.

We work with students who are blind or who are visually impaired as early as age 14. While we cannot offer services that are the responsibility of the local school system, we can offer rehabilitation services which will continue after

graduation from high school, and may include post secondary training and ultimately work. Other services may be provided if they are needed to help you prepare for work.

If you are one of the more than 27,000 North Carolinians living with vision and hearing loss which prevents you from finding or keeping a job, we can help. We employ specialized staff fluent in American Sign Language who understand the complex and challenging needs of the hard of hearing and visually impaired. Our specialized staff are ready to assist you today.

Rehabilitation Center for the Blind & Evaluation Unit

The Rehabilitation Center for the Blind, located on the Governor Morehead School campus in Raleigh, offers residential, comprehensive vocational evaluations and specialized instruction to assist you in developing the skills needed to live independently and become employed. The Rehabilitation Center for the Blind provides a comprehensive adjustment program for the development of personal and pre-vocational skills necessary to meet your needs. You will have an individualized plan of services based on an evaluation. Your training may include Braille, daily living, safe travel, adaptive technology/computer skills and communication skills. For high

school students, the rehabilitation center has a summer transition program designed to provide students with training and opportunities needed to prepare for life after high school.

Business Enterprise Program

The Business Enterprise Program (BEP) provides opportunities for individuals who are blind to function as independent contractors through the operation of vending and onsite food service locations. A training program is available if you are interested in this employment opportunity. On the national level, the program is known as the Randolph-Sheppard Program.

Independent Living Services

When you experience loss of vision, where should you go? DSB offers many services to assist in meeting the challenges of vision loss and learning to live independently and safely in the home and community. Services offered may include: counseling, information sharing, instruction in adaptive techniques of daily living, use of low vision assistive aids and devices, safe travel training (Orientation and Mobility) and referral to other resources.